

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 05989 082349Z
ACTION INR-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 05989

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, AR, CA
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON DWIGHT WILDER FULFORD,
CANADIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO ARGENTINA

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DWIGHT FULFORD, A CAREER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED TO BE THE NEW CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA. HIS ASSIGNMENT WILL PROBABLY NOT BEGIN UNTIL LATE FALL, FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF HIS CURRENT DETAIL AS DEPUTY COORDINATOR OF CANADA'S GAS PIPELINE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. FOLLOWING ARE BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON FULFORD.

2. BORN IN TORONTO, MAY 29, 1931, FULFORD RECEIVED HIS BA FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO IN 1953, AND HE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN 1955. HIS FIRST POSTING WAS AS THIRD SECRETARY AT THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES; IN 1960 HE RETURNED TO OTTAWA TO SERVE IN THE LATIN AMERICAN DIVISION FOR A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR PRIOR TO HIS TRANSFER TO HAVANA FOR ALMOST THREE YEARS, AS SECOND AND THEN FIRST SECRETARY. IN JUNE OF 1964 HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO MEXICO CITY, AND IN 1967 HE WAS MADE COUNSELOR AT THE CANADIAN EMBASSY THERE UNTIL HE RETURNED TO OTTAWA IN SEPTEMBER 1969.

3. FROM THEN UNTIL 1977 HE SERVED FIRST AS DIRECTOR OF THE
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 05989 082349Z

TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY DIVISION OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, LATER AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS, AND SUBSEQUENTLY AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. IN APRIL 1977 HE WAS DETACHED FROM EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO WORK AS DEPUTY COORDINATOR OF CANADA'S PIPELINE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

4. COMMENT: DURING THE PERIOD FROM LATE 1974 UNTIL THIS SPRING, FULFORD SPENT A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF HIS TIME ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES AND HE WAS THE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FOR CANADA IN INCORPORATING STRONGER NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS INTO CANADA'S BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION. HE WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND ERDA DURING THE EVOLUTION OF THE NEW (1974-76) CANADIAN SAFEGUARDS POLICIES, AND HE WAS ACTIVE IN TRYING TO INFLUENCE CONSTRUCTIVELY U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY. HE CONSISTENTLY TRIED TO ASSURE THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CANADIAN NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICIES WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

5. PERSONALLY, FULFORD IS QUITE AFFABLE, INTELLIGENT, QUICK TO GRASP NEW CONCEPTS, AND GENERALLY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS THE U.S. HE HAS A STRONG PERSONALITY AND IS A LEADER RATHER THAN A "FOLLOWER". AN INDEFATIGABLE WORKER, HE HAS PUT IN LONG HOURS AND TRAVELLED FREQUENTLY. HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER BARBARA SCRETON. THEY HAVE SIX CHILDREN. ENDERS

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